

THE FEMINE FANCIES TO INTEREST WOMEN

Alas! The Poor Blonde?

SHALL I come to this or has the time already arrived?

Must the girl with the light hair submit to the scorn of a learned professor of medicine and take a back seat in the matrimonial wagon?

For listen to what this ultra-gentleman has said and the world has taken cognizance of it: "The blonde's chances of marrying are not at all equal to those of her brunette sister. Three brunettes marry to every blonde that approaches the altar."

Tough luck, if it's true, for, lo, the blonde must hustle and catch up, and will she be compelled to fall at the feet of the young man she likes best and entreat him to take her, even in sooth, if she is a blonde?

Three blondes met a few days ago and



"I'm Only a Blonde."

discussed the awful plight in which the medico would place them in subdued tones. They started to compare notes. Mamie is a statuesque creature, who has always had a string of admirers, and immediately the teeth of the others stopped their deadly work on the fudge and they became vitally interested. Mamie mended:

"Of all the things I ever read in my life if this doesn't beat all. If the old sawbones had only said that fewer of us get married he would be nearer the truth, but as regards our chances—why, the woods are full of them. Now, girls, you remember that nice fellow with the weak voice and the watery eyes that used to hang after me for so long. I am ashamed of it. Well, I wouldn't have him in the cellar attending to the furnace. You know who he married. Don't you? Well, one day that crazy Sadie Brown, and she is a brunette, called here and met him. The way she cot-

toned to that poor boy was a caution. She led him on and on, finally she became married. And they do say she leads him an awful life. I could have had lots of others, too, if I just wanted to get married, but I want a man—a real man—when I try that game. I don't want somebody to sit on."

"That's just what I say," said the buxom, comfortable-looking Anna. "It makes me tired to see the kinds of excuses for men that are going around trying to get a girl to marry them. I could have lots of them, but I want a fellow who can do something else besides wear a green hat, I do."

The other girl did not speak right away when her turn came. She leaned over to the table, took another piece of fudge, chewed on it contentedly and then proceeded. Claudine is an educated girl, a happy girl, but, unfortunately, not pretty nor handsome. She said:

"My dear girls, I can talk to you about this matter as a rank outsider, for there never was but one man who ever dared approach me with a matrimonial proposition, and he was over 80 years old. I wasn't intended for the marrying thing, but I have read up statistics on this blonde and brunette proposition and I can tell you a few things about it that close the atmosphere, and doesn't make the doctor look so ridiculous after all. More than three-quarters of the white people of the world are of brunette cast. The Northern countries of Europe and the United Kingdom have given birth to the majority of blondes. Of course, then, blonde women are naturally only one-fourth as many as brunettes, and this leaves the argument still in our favor. Do you understand? When with a lack of desire to marry blondes hold their own."

"So nice to be clever," muttered Mamie. "You certainly are a dear at figures," said Anna.

It is a nice thing to have the reputation of being clever. Now, isn't it? Wonder if Claudine's solution would worry the professor.

"A Stitch in Time"

IF YOU have a piece of lace badly torn, careful mending with a little needle will work wonders.

You have been accustomed to using a tape measure; try a small tin ruler the next time you have to measure such things as bands and hems—it's handier.

When doing hand sewing always make a knot in the end of the thread from the spool; this prevents the thread knotting. It is also advisable to take the ends of the threads in the hands and stretch it by giving quick pulls.

When a quantity of insertion is worn upon flannel waists, the lace should be reinforced with a little strip of net. This prevents the lace from pulling. Any kind of wash net of good quality will answer the purpose. It can be sewn on with the lace or afterward by hand.

SUFFERING PAIN FOR FASHION'S SAKE

ALAS, for poor woman! She was born to suffer, but the suffering that was foreordained for her is entirely insufficient to the demands of her nature, for, in sooth, ever since Eve hung out her first woe, and Adam called her things, for ever thinking of doing such a foolish thing as wearing clothes, woman has always been busy inventing some means of torturing herself for fashion's sake. In recent efforts to do something new an old habit has been revived that made life unpleasant for our grandmothers and more remote ancestors.

The long, ungainly-looking relics of barbarism that are known as corsets, and mothers, sisters, sweethearts, wives, all join in the march to the ear-piercer, whose gruesome trade has been revived so that the eternal search after something new may be satisfied.

And when we stop to consider the history of the corset—its first use and its subsequent career as it is known to later-day readers of old, old books, and to them only—it would appear as if the corset was not taken to bed with illness brought about by this monstrous and unhygienic style of costume. Still to expose your life to such imminent danger, but everybody does it. Therefore, it's the right thing.

The French Heel.

The French heel is another abomination.

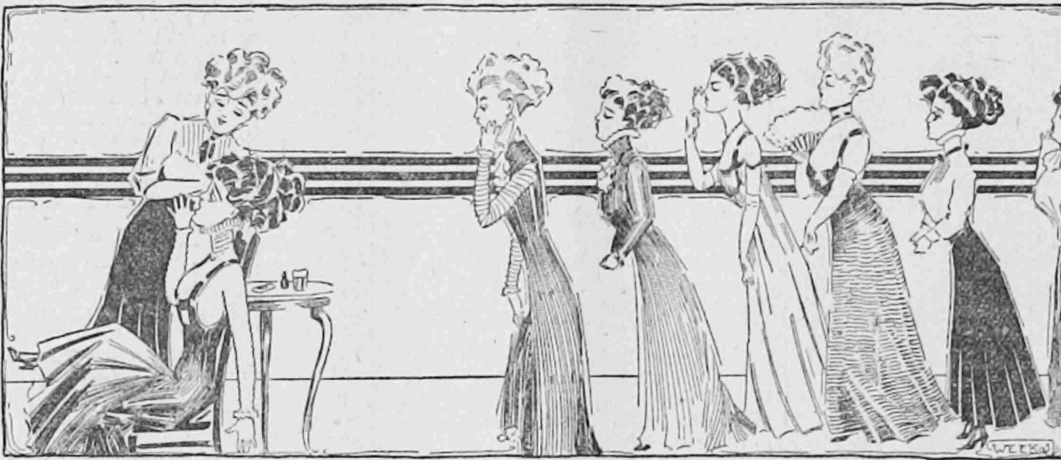
The Corset.

Despite the advertisements to the contrary and the general desire on the part

of women to make the corset easy and comfortable, the fact is that the corset is a more pronounced instrument of torture today than it ever was. Fashion came forward and decreed no less, no curves. A straight up-and-down figure for every woman, no matter what her physical possibilities are, and women, as usual, have listened to the voice, and now they are doing all kinds of things to be able to give the impression of a sylphlike form. Some of the new corsets, a physician declared, a few days ago, to be the most exquisite instruments of torture that ever were devised. But Sister Sadie is satisfied. She is a comfortable-looking girl, is Sadie, and weighs about 150 pounds, but she must look right on the street, and she says she is going to—so there.

MAKE YOUR OWN SOAP.

MANY a girl finds difficulty in getting hold of a soap that agrees with her skin. One that will be a cleansing and whitening soap cream made from a cake of pure castile soap, a tablespoonful of benzoin and a quart of boiling water. Cut the soap into thin shavings and put them in a saucepan with the water, cooking until the consistency of thick cream. Let it simmer slowly on the back of the stove and not boil. When nearly cold add the benzoin drop by drop, stirring all the while. Keep the mixture in a wide-mouthed glass with a lid.



Getting Their Ears Pierced.

The Tight Neck Ruffs.

LAST spring tight neck ruffs made their appearance. They were received with some hesitation by the carefully dressed women, but now that hesitation has taken wings and the Pier-ruff has apparently come to stay—for a time at least.

They are made in many different styles and of many different materials. There's

a mixture of tulle and velvet; ostrich plumes have been adapted to the present mode and are used, in light shades, to make the ruff. Chiffon is used with wide satin ribbon, and ostrich with marabout and satin.

A small, modest ruff is made of wide, black velvet ribbon, tied in the back with a large bow; the line around the neck is broken by a triple ruffling of white tulle

pleated very full.

A ruff suitable for young girls is made of tulle, all in white, then on the side with a large bow of white tulle ribbon; the lower edge of the ruffling around the neck is bound in the same.

A ruff with a pretty finish is made of a ruffling of ostrich plumes of a very light tan shade, with a double rosette in front.

Are Women Making Good?

SHE IS the real woman, is this new woman who has come among us? The bachelor girl, the girl who wishes to make her own living is recognized by everybody. She is a new creation. She has gone away from all the old traditions of womanhood and she has made good. In every office, in every store, almost everywhere we look we see a competent self-reliant woman taking care of things. She may not be pretty, she may not wear the latest things in hats and gowns and skirts, but she is self-sufficient and knows her work and does it. This is her greatest recommendation.

Positions that were formerly held by men, and which many people thought could only be held by males, are open today to this militant creature. She does not worry about her rat, or her chlorophyll, or her manicurist, or the very latest things in earrings. She goes along and does her work, and the average low-browed inefficient man is compelled to take orders from her.

The reason of this is obvious. The bachelor girl is competent and she knows it. She has none of the vices of her brother and it is nice and healthy for a man who wishes to have things as they should be to talk with her and accept her ideas of how things should be done. A clear brain and a retentive memory are her principal assets. She is devoted to her employer's business welfare and he places absolute confidence in her.

The reasons for all these things are easily given. Any man who has a capacity for discernment prefers a clear-eyed bright woman in charge of his affairs. The days of the man with the foul breath and the periodical soure are numbered. If he should wish to retain his place in the business world he can only do so by showing a capacity equal to that of his sister.

Woman's Superior Fitness.

The vice president and general manager of one of the largest corporations in the United States was talking some days ago about the labor problem. He was very positive in his statements of the woman's superior fitness. He said:

"Some years ago our concern would not consider a woman for any clerical position. Today we have very few men left. They are all men who have families and who do not touch, taste or handle intoxicants. Women have not driven men to the wall, but the latter have been the aggressors against themselves. They have not kept pace with the demands of the hour."

"With new systems of doing office work—the introduction of the typewriter and the index system—a demand has been made for a step forward in the qualification of the people who do the work. Progress makes her demands and we must live up to them. The Dick Swiveller type of clerk is naught but a humbug and unpleasant memory."

Not Question of Economy.

Asked if it is not true that the reason

women have been found more desirable for office work is that they can be employed for a far smaller salary than the average man demands, the manager said: "Such a statement is positively absurd. Can you imagine a sane man, who has been chosen as the executive head of a large corporation whose work must be done all right at all times employing office help along economical lines only. No, indeed. The principal consideration always is efficiency. My business calls me about the country a great deal and my headquarters office force must be well organized. A woman takes charge of it and receives for this work a salary of \$5,000 a year—pretty good salary for a clerk, and she has women assistants who



Make a Copy of This.

receive salaries far above the earnings of the average physician or lawyer."

Another big employer of labor said: "Women work well and thoroughly. Men do not have the minds for detail. My secretary is a woman and she keeps me straight in the office. Another woman, my wife, keeps me straight when office hours are over. Are women competent? Well, I should say so."

Gold Slipper Revived.

ONCE again an old favorite has come back into vogue in feminine footgear—the gold slipper. Most of the season's footgear is brilliant and naturally the gold should find a place. This year's slipper is made of gold satin, cloth of gold or of gilt. When dalled through wear it can be refurbished with a gilt liquid that is on sale at all good shoe stores.

Gold slippers are not becoming unless worn with a white or black gown. The stockings must always match the gown, not the slippers. With bronze slippers, which seem to have come into vogue again along with the gold, stockings to match are worn—but the match must be an exact one.

The Men's Corner.

Gun Accidents and How to Avoid Them.

WHEN one considers how many shot-guns are in daily use throughout the year, how cheaply some of them have been produced, and how habitually careless are many of those who pleasure it is to handle them, the wonder is not that gun accidents occur, but that they occur so seldom.

The careful sportsman is ever on his guard not only against his own mistakes, but against the mistakes of others.

Even if he knows that his gun is the best it is possible to purchase and trusts it absolutely, he will take care that it is submitted to no unfair trials. The last cartridge fired may have been carelessly filled. The man who made it may have put in sufficient powder to drive the shot from the gun, but not enough to discharge the wad. If the next cartridge is fired while the wad of its predecessor is sticking in the middle of the barrel the chances are that the barrel will burst and the sportsman lose his hand and perhaps his life.

Moral: Make it a habit to glance through the barrel before inserting a cartridge.

A gun that has been altered should always be regarded with suspicion. The fitting of an ejector, for instance, upon a gun not designed for the French method, produces a weakness which may cause a burst.

But it is from the other end of the gun that accidents most frequently occur. Of course, no sane person would deliberately aim a gun at anyone whether the gun was loaded or not; but it is an astonishing thing considering the small number of people composing an average shooting party that when a gun does go off accidentally it is nearly always pointing at a human being.

A not uncommon cause of accident is the pernicious habit which some shooters have of bringing up the barrel to the stock leading instead of bringing up the stock to the barrel. The fear of closing the breech is sometimes sufficient to discharge a too sensitive cartridge. If the barrel had been brought up it is probably pointing at the moment at a man's head, whereas if the stock had been brought up the charge would have gone harmlessly into the ground.

Or the accident may be due to momentary forgetfulness of the fact that one is carrying under one's arm or over one's shoulder a death-dealing instrument. The sportsman who is trying to get a light for his cigar on a windy day often goes through a series of bodily contortions which cause the barrels of the gun he is carrying to dodge round all the points of the compass. If, however, he is a real sportsman he will not attempt to light up unless the barrels are empty.

It is so easy to remove a cartridge from a breech-loader that there is no excuse nowadays for the sportsman who carries a loaded gun while concentrating his attention upon the lighting of a cigar, the scrambling through a hedge or even the jumping of a ditch.

Next to pointing his weapon directly at any person, the biggest fool trick which a man can play with a gun is to take it loaded into a house. It would be incredible if it were not notorious that this number of fatalities resulting from this act of lunacy exceeds that of all other accidents with sporting guns.

Measuring Horsepower in Autos.

THERE is only one method of exactly measuring horsepower in a gasoline automobile engine and that is by actual test with a mechanical machine as are built to show strain. It makes no difference what formula may be used for calculating the power of the engine, trifling inaccuracies are bound to result.

But it is possible to calculate quickly by some means the horsepower of every automobile engine to within a reasonable degree of accuracy and this is all that any purchaser or owner of these machines has any practical use for. There are several formulas used by dealers, but the best and quickest is the French method, which calculates upon the bore of the cylinders, the stroke of the pistons, the number of the cylinders and the number of revolutions made by the engine per minute at any one time.

This formula is here given for the use of automobile owners whose ideas of the real power of their machines is based by the builders of the French method, which calculates upon the bore of the cylinders, the stroke of the pistons, the number of the cylinders and the number of revolutions made by the engine per minute at any one time.

Take the square of the bore and multiply by the number of cylinders. Then multiply this last figure by the number of revolutions made by the engine per minute. Divide this answer by ten, raised to the ninth power and multiply this result by four. The figure now obtained is the horsepower of your machine. As the measurement of both the stroke and the bore is usually given in millimeters, the com-

The Office Chair.

Many office workers like to appropriate the softest chairs or stools they can find.

In the belief that the fatigue of sitting is lessened by a well-cushioned seat. This is a mistake. Nature has provided man with a ready-made and portable cushion of fat and muscle. When we sit on a smooth and hard surface the weight of the body is borne by three main points, but when we rest on something soft and yielding the muscles of the thighs also bear a large proportion of the weight, and, being thus subjected to pressure, the circulation within these muscles is much retarded.

The same thing applies to bicycle saddles, those of hard leather being just as comfortable as the soft or inflated sort, and much more healthful.

How a Conjurer Learns His Trade.

WHERE does the conjurer learn his work, and who invents his tricks for him?

The first question is easy; the second difficult. The conjurer learns from books and from papers produced specially for conjurers. There are three conjurers' papers published in America and three in England, and it is generally understood that English conjurers are always hungry for the American papers and the American conjurers for the English. As to the books on conjuring, they are produced by the score, but the majority of them are never heard of by anyone but conjurers.

But the conjurer who always performs

A Pretty Colonial Design Costing \$6,000.



DESIGNED BY CHARLES S. SEDGWICK, ARCHITECT, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

ADIGNIFIED colonial design, with the semi-circular porch and the large Ionic columns and enriched frieze and cornice will always attract attention; such a design is shown by our illustration. The size is 40 feet wide by 30 feet deep, standing with the broad front to the street, the entrance is through a liberal-sized circular porch, supplemented on each side by a wide terrace with railing. The house is full of two stories in height, with a gambrel roof and dormer windows facing the front, the ends finished with gables and an outside chimney, adding to the symmetry as well as the comfort of the

house. The porch is designed with a second-story balcony, making a nice place for outdoor sitting.

Entering through the central vestibule into a wide hall the appearance is in perfect harmony with the general old colonial style. The main staircase leading up with mahogany rail and white balusters, all of the wood work being in white enamel; the end of the main hall is semi-circular, with statuary niches on the stair landing, underneath the landing is a door opening into the rear hall, which opens directly back onto a rear piazza. In the rear hall is a short section of stairs leading up to and connect-

ing with the platform of main stairs. At the left of the main hall is the large living-room, 15 feet by 23 feet, with a music-room at the rear. On the right of the hall is the library and dining-room. The second story is divided into four chambers, dressing-room, bathroom and ample closets. White enamel finish prevails throughout. The floors are of hard wood. There are two large fireplaces in the first story and opportunity for two in second story. The attic is large and sunny and well lighted, affording good space for amusement-room and servants' rooms. The estimated cost, exclusive of heating and plumbing is \$6,000.

Newspapers All Over the World.

THE newspaper related further North comes out with this Arctic region. It comes out but once a year, but is a very new sheet to the inhabitants of this frozen region, and is the output of a missionary school. The entire number of daily papers published throughout the world is approximately 6,000, and nearly 2,000 of these are published in the United States alone.

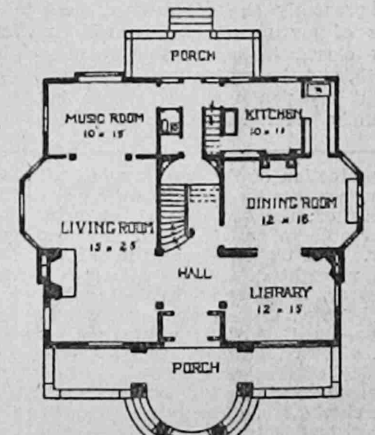
Germany gets out about 1,000 dailies and is fairly responsive to newspaper reading, although it is in France and especially Paris that the daily newspaper has reached its largest circulation and it has over the Parisians a most pronounced influence. Paris prints about 150 dailies more than London and New York combined, and the newspaper said to have the biggest daily circulation is alleged to be Le Petit Journal.

In India the number of subscriptions are out of all proportion to the actual number of readers, as a single paper will go from house to house in a small village

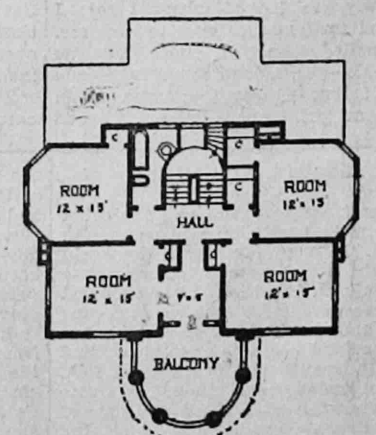
and do for the entire reading of the community.

In Persia six dailies supply the nation with such news items as the ruling government will permit the editors to publish. One of these is in the Syrian language and the remainder use the Persian language, which is a decidedly mixed tongue.

The oldest newspaper in the world is said to be the Peking News or the Tsing-Pao. It claims to have been issued uninterruptedly for nearly 1,400 years. In appearance this oldest of papers looks like a yellow backed magazine. It contains 24 octavo pages, and each page consists of seven columns, and each column contains seven Chinese ideographs. Two editions are printed, one for the court and the rest for wealthy Chinamen. It records all imperial orders, proclamations, etc., and is the official mouthpiece of the Chinese government. The workers on this sheet are very careful, as the slightest misprint or misstatement is punished with instant death. Austria has more newspapers in diverse languages than any other country.



First Floor Plan.



Second Floor Plan.